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Spokesmen Come to Defense of C. I. A.

IS IT TRUE OR FALSE that the Central Intelligence Agency gave the U.S. Government highly inaccurate reports on the resistance that the Castro dictatorship might be expected to present against an invasion attempt?

The general implication of news dispatches and the prevailing assumption in most commentaries is that the C.I.A. did an egregiously poor job and thereby put this country in an embarrassing hole.

But yesterday unnamed spokesmen for the C.I.A. said that these implications and assumptions are wholly baseless, that its information was accurate, and that its analysis of this information was correct. The invasion proved a fiasco, according

to C.I.A.'s defenders, because the anti-Castro forces failed to hold their beach-head.

There is no way, of course, for Americans to know now what the truth is. The C.I.A. necessarily must operate off the stage. But ultimately the truth will probably come out. A secret study of the C.I.A. is to be made by a panel headed by Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, and it is reasonable to expect that, with access to all the files and reports, this panel will be able to find out how good our spying is.

Pending that determination, it seems only fair to suspend judgment on evidence not now before the people.